



Grand Opening Arizona Center for Algae Technology and Innovation

Remarks by Gov. Jan Brewer
Tuesday, February 21, 2012

Good morning, everyone.

Just one week ago today – on February 14th -- we celebrated our state's centennial -- and that day caused us to try to peer into the future -- as we wondered what the next 100 years might bring.

Well, we're here this morning to see just exactly what the future holds -- as we mark the grand opening of the Arizona Center for Algae Technology and Innovation -- a fantastic intellectual and resource hub for algae-based research – right here on ASU's Polytechnic campus.

In September of 2010, I was pleased to award \$2 million in discretionary stimulus funding to Science Foundation Arizona for this new Center – and I was DELIGHTED when private industry stepped forward and provided an additional \$2 million in matching grants to the industry.

Thanks to the leadership of:

- Dr. Michael Crow;**
- ASU Foundation's Rick Shangraw;**
- ASU's Lightworks Gary Dirks;**
- ASU College of Technology and Innovation Vice Provost Dean Mitzi Montoya;**
- Science Foundation Arizona President and CEO Bill Harris;**
- And, Mayor Scott Smith ...**

The Arizona Center for Algae Technology and Innovation is poised to seize the opportunities that the future holds.

The exploding global demand for transportation fuels has sparked a surge in the interest of bio-fuels in general -- and algae-based bio-fuels -- in particular.

Arizona is a natural "test bed" for algae technology – with its abundance of Sunshine – C-O-TWO -- and brackish water – we have just the right ingredients for algae to thrive.

It's wonderful to see this Center begin to blossom – allowing Arizona the potential to be a national and global leader in algae research and biotechnology -- reducing America's dependence on fossil fuel -- increasing prospects for green jobs and profits -- cleaning air and water -- and creating valuable products for human and animal use.

Combined with the excellence at ASU, Arizona is building on this important research and commercialization that will result in promising new jobs for Arizonans.

As we celebrated our past last week, today we celebrate our FUTURE – so that years from now, I would not be surprised if an “A” is added to our “Five Cs” – Copper, Cattle, Citrus, Climate, Cotton – AND ALGAE!

Thank you.